ABSTRACT

This present invention provides compositions and methods for assessing the risk of a disease using salivary analysis. Specifically, the present invention provides a method for predicting the risk of a disease, comprising the steps of: a) providing a saliva sample from a

5 subject; b) isolating a mucin in the saliva sample to produce an isolated mucin; and c) quantitating the content of a component in the isolated mucin, to predict the risk of a disease in the subject. The present invention also provides methods for reducing the risk of a disease and diagnostic kits for detecting a disease based on measurement of the content of a component in a salivary mucin.

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